

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1227**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Huber**

February 18, 2011

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An act to amend Section 14501 of the Public Resources Code, relating to recycling.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1227, as introduced, Huber. California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act.

The California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act requires every beverage container sold or offered for sale in this state to have a minimum refund value. The act also makes various findings and declarations regarding beverage container recycling.

This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to those findings and declarations.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 14501 of the Public Resources Code is
- 2 amended to read:
- 3 14501. The Legislature finds and declares as follows:
- 4 (a) Experience in this state and others demonstrates that financial
- 5 incentives and convenient return systems ensure the efficient and
- 6 large-scale recycling of beverage containers. Accordingly, it is the
- 7 intent of the Legislature to encourage increased, and more
- 8 convenient, beverage container redemption opportunities for all

1 consumers. These redemption opportunities shall consist of dealer  
2 and other shopping center locations, independent and industry  
3 operated recycling centers, curbside programs, and other recycling  
4 systems that assure all consumers, in every region of the state, the  
5 opportunity to return beverage containers conveniently, efficiently,  
6 and economically.

7 (b) California grocery, beer, soft drink, container manufacturing,  
8 labor, agricultural, consumer, environmental, government, citizen,  
9 recreational, taxpayer, and recycling groups have joined together  
10 in calling for an innovative program to generate large-scale  
11 redemption and recycling of beverage containers.

12 (c) This division establishes a beverage container recycling goal  
13 of 80 percent.

14 (d) It is the intent of the Legislature to ensure that every  
15 container type proves its own recyclability.

16 (e) It is the intent of the Legislature to make redemption and  
17 recycling convenient to consumers, and the Legislature hereby  
18 urges cities and counties, when exercising their zoning authority,  
19 to act favorably on the siting of multimaterial recycling centers,  
20 reverse vending machines, mobile recycling units, or other types  
21 of recycling opportunities, as necessary for consumer convenience,  
22 and the overall success of litter abatement and beverage container  
23 recycling in the state.

24 (f) The purpose of this division is to create and maintain a  
25 marketplace where it is profitable to establish sufficient recycling  
26 centers and locations to provide consumers with convenient  
27 recycling opportunities through the establishment of minimum  
28 refund values and processing fees and, through the proper  
29 application of these elements, to enhance the profitability of  
30 recycling centers, recycling locations, and other beverage container  
31 recycling programs.

32 (g) The responsibility to provide convenient, efficient, and  
33 economical redemption opportunities rests jointly with  
34 manufacturers, distributors, dealers, recyclers, processors, and the  
35 *Division of Recycling in the Department of Conservation Resources*  
36 *Recycling and Recovery*.

37 (h) It is the intent of the Legislature, in enacting this division,  
38 that all empty beverage containers redeemed shall be recycled,  
39 and that the responsibilities and regulations of the department shall

1 be determined and implemented in a manner that favors the  
2 recycling of redeemed containers, as opposed to their disposal.

3 (i) ~~Nothing in this~~ *This* division shall *not* be interpreted as  
4 affecting the current business practices of scrap dealers or recycling  
5 centers, except that, to the extent they function as a recycling center  
6 or processor, they shall do so in accordance with this division.

7 (j) The program established by this division will contribute  
8 significantly to the reduction of the beverage container component  
9 of litter in this state.

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